



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS



Planning Preschool Program Changes for
2018-19

Board of Education Meeting

November 13, 2017

Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

Elida Garcia, Program Director of Early Childhood Educational and Transitional Kindergarten



Presentation Purpose

- Provide background on declining preschool enrollment.
- Outline two strategies to proactively plan changes in preschool services in light of enrollment and fiscal realities.
- Describe next steps for communication.



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The number of California babies born each year began dropping steadily in 2007, according to state public health records. From 2002 to 2011:

- There was a 5% statewide **decrease** in births.
- Los Angeles County had close to a 14% **decrease** in births .
- Long Beach had a **decline** in birth rate by 7% in just three years.

California Birthrate Declining, Which Means Ripple Effects in Education and Workplace, Los Angeles Daily News, March 22, 2013

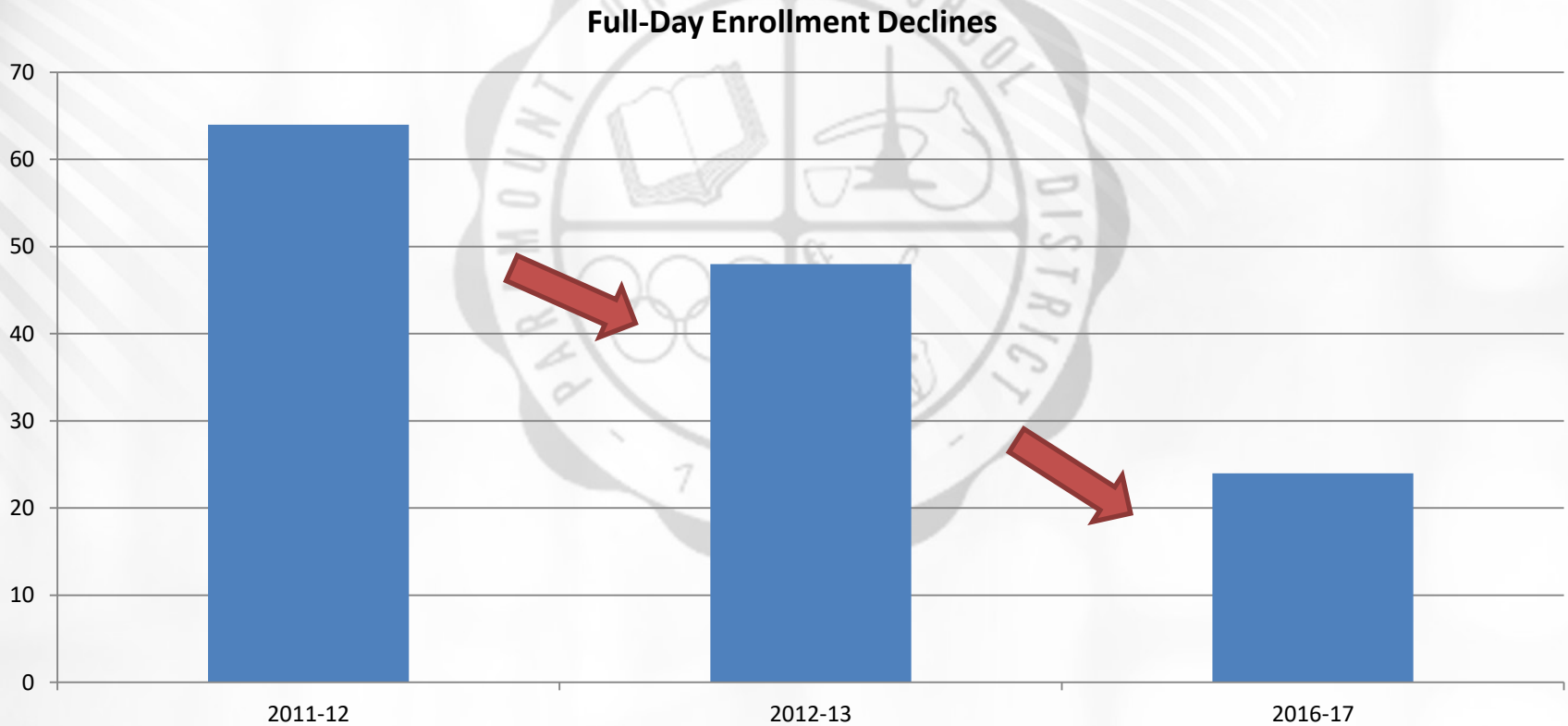


Full-day Preschool – Gaines

- PUSD has one full day preschool class, located at Gaines ECE.
- Serves eligible families who are low-income and work or attend school full-time.
- Operates on 12-month calendar, 7:30 am – 5:00 pm.



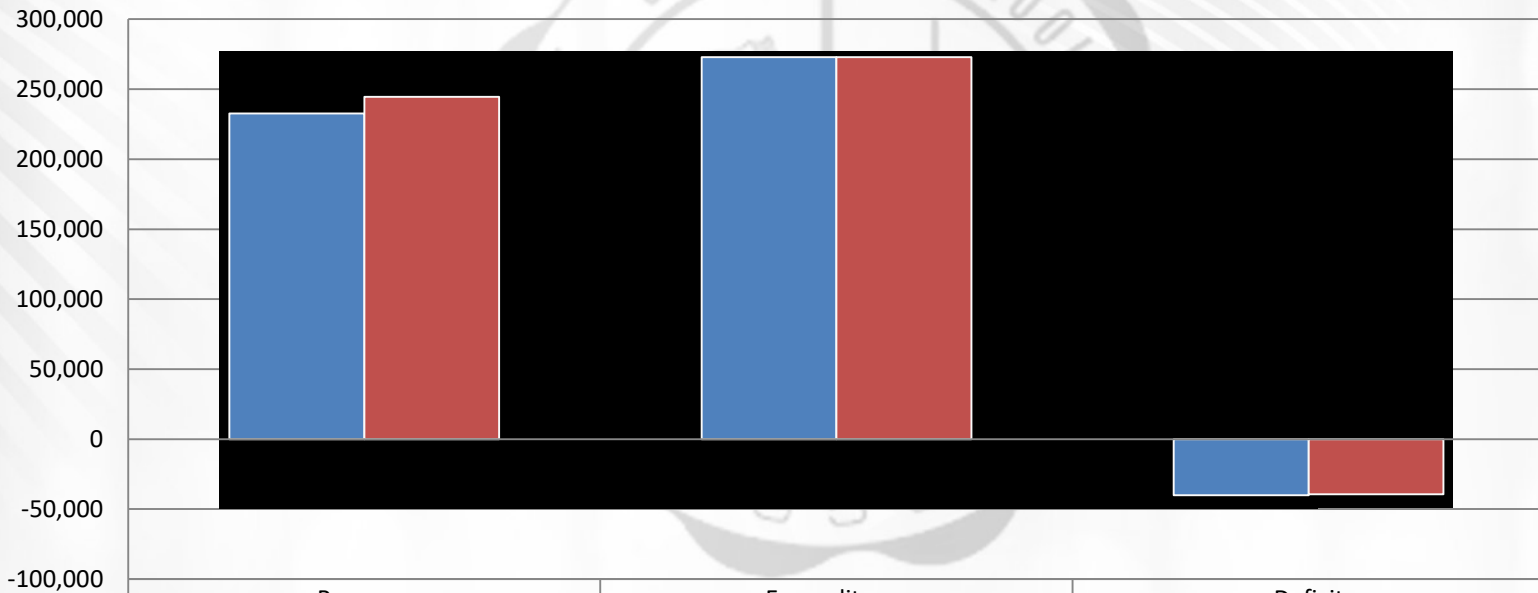
Full-day Preschool Enrollment Declines, 2011-2017





Declining Enrollment Impacts Funding

Full-day Preschool Budget Deficit



	Revenue	Expenditures	Deficit
■ 2016-17	232,708	272,803	-40,095
■ Projected 2017-18	244,472	272,803	-39,443

** 2017-18 projection includes recently enacted reimbursement rate increase.*



Recommendation for Gaines Full-day Preschool

Convert the full-day preschool class at Gaines into a half day, double session, 10-month program for 2018-19 to respond to current enrollment and funding needs.



Implications for Gaines Full-day Preschool

- Work schedule for one teacher and seven assistants will change from 12-months to 10-months.
- Three of the seven assistants will be reassigned to other preschool sites; the other four assistants will remain at Gaines.
- All seven assistants will change from 3.0 hour to 3.5 hour work assignment.



Preschool Program Offerings

- This year two new preschool classes were opened using Title I and Title III funds. These classes were opened to provide preschool enrollment for families who are *over* income eligibility.
- Currently there are 38 unfilled enrollment spaces even with Title I and III classes added.
- As a result, PUSD has more preschool facilities than are currently needed. The closure of one preschool site will address the under-utilization of facilities.



Recommendation for Preschool Reconfiguration:

- Close the Alondra Preschool site for 2018-19 due to declining enrollment. The Alondra site is the most feasible to reduce since it is not filled to capacity and is located on a middle school, rather than a K-5 campus.
- Students who would have attended Alondra will enroll at other district preschool sites.
- The closure of the Alondra site will result in the number of preschool facilities matching the number of preschool students enrolled.



Implications for Alondra Preschool

- Although one teaching position will be eliminated, it is anticipated that this position will be absorbed due to attrition or retirement.
- The preschool assistants currently who work at the Alondra site will be reassigned to other preschool sites.



Next Steps in Communication

Action Steps	Projected Date
Communicate program changes to staff	November, 2017
Communicate program changes to CDE (State Preschool Continuation Funding Application)	December, 2017
Communicate program changes to parents	January/February, 2018



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Questions